NUMB. CCCCXXXV.

The SPECTATOR.

Nec duo ſunt at forma duplex, nec fœmina dici
Nec puer ut poſſint, neutrumque & utrumque videntur.
Ovid.

Saturday, July 19. 1712.

MOST of the Papers which I give the Publick are written on Subjects that never vary, but are for ever fixt and immutable. Of this kind are all my more Serious Eſſays and Diſcourſes; but there is another Sort of Speculations, which I conſider as Occaſional Papers, that take their Riſe from the Folly, Extravagance, and Caprice of the preſent Age. For I look upon my ſelf as one ſet to watch the Manners and Behaviour of my Countrymen and Contemporaries, and to mark down every abſurd Faſhion, ridiculous Cuſtom, or affected Form of Speech that makes its Appearance in the World, during the Courſe of theſe my Speculations. The Petticoat is no ſooner begun to ſwell, but I obſerved its Motions. The Party-patches had not time to muſter themſelves before I detected them. I had Intelligence of the Coloured Hood the very firſt time it appeared in a Publick Aſſembly. I might here mention ſeveral other the like Contigent Subjects, upon which I have beſtowed diſtinct Papers. By this Means I have ſo effectually quaſhed thoſe Irregularities which gave Occaſion to 'em, that I am afraid Poſterity will ſcarce have a ſufficient Idea of them to Reliſh thoſe Diſcourſes which were in no little Vogue at the time when they were written. They will be apt to think that the Faſhions and Cuſtoms I attacked, were ſome Fantaſtick Conceits of my own, and that their Great-Grandmothers cou'd not be ſo whimſical as I have repreſented them. For this Reaſon, when I think on the Figure my ſeveral Volumes of Speculations will make about a Hundred Years hence, I conſider them as ſo many Pieces of old Plate, where the Weight will be regarded, but the Faſhion loſt.

Among the ſeveral Female Extravagancies which I have already taken Notice of, there is one that ſtill keeps its Ground. I mean that of the Ladies who dreſs themſelves in a Hat and Feather, a Riding-coat and a Perriwig; or at leaſt tie up their Hair in a Bag or Ribbond, in imitation of the ſmart Part of the oppoſite Sex. As in my Yeſterday's Paper I gave an Account of the Mixture of two Sexes in one Commonwealth, I ſhall here take notice of this Mixture of two Sexes in one Perſon. I have already ſhewn my Diſlike of this Immodeſt Cuſtom more than once; but in Contempt of every thing I have hitherto ſaid, I am informed that the Highways about this great City are ſtill very much infeſted with theſe Female Cavaliers.

I remember when I was at my Friend Sir ROGER DE COVERLY's about this time Twelvemonth, an Equeſtrian Lady of this Order appeared upon the Plains which lay at a diſtance from his Houſe. I was at that time walking in the Fields with my old Friend; and as his Tenants ran out on every ſide to ſee ſo ſtrange a Sight, Sir ROGER asked one of them who came by us what it was? To which the Country Fellow reply'd, 'Tis a Gentlewoman, ſaving your Worſhip's Preſence, in a Coat and Hat. This produced a great deal of Mirth at the Knight's Houſe, where we had a Story at the ſame time of another of his Tenants, who meeting this Gentleman-like Lady on the High-way, was asked by her *whether that was* Coverly-Hall, the Honeſt Man ſeeing only the Male part of the Queriſt, replied, *Yes, Sir*; but upon the ſecond Queſtion, *whether Sir* ROGER DE COVERLY *was a Married Man*, having dropped his Eye upon the Petticoat, he chang'd his Note into *No Madam*.

Had one of theſe Hermaphrodites appeared in *Juvenal*'s Days, with what an Indignation ſhould we have ſeen her deſcribed by that excellent Satyriſt.

He

He would have repreſented her in her Riding Habit, as a greater Monſter than the Centaur. He would have called for Sacrifices, or Purifying Waters, to expiate the Appearance of ſuch a Prodigy. He would have Invoked the Shades of *Portia* or *Lucretia*, to ſee into what the *Roman* Ladies had transformed themſelves.

For my own part, I am for treating the Sex with greater Tenderneſs, and have all along made uſe of the moſt gentle Methods to bring them off from any little Extravagance, into which they are ſometimes unwarily fallen: I think it however abſolutely neceſſary to keep up the Partition between the two Sexes, and to take Notice of the ſmalleſt Encroachments that the one makes upon the other. I hope therefore that I ſhall not hear any more Complaints on this Subject. I am ſure my She-Diſciples who peruſe theſe my daily Lectures, have profited but little by them, if they are capable of giving into ſuch an Amphibious Dreſs. This I ſhould not have mentioned, had not I lately met one of theſe my Female Readers in *Hide-Park*, who looked upon me with a maſculine Aſſurance, and cocked her Hat full in my Face.

For my part, I have one general Key to the Behaviour of the Fair Sex. When I ſee them ſingular in any Part of their Dreſs, I conclude it is not without ſome Evil Intention; and therefore queſtion not but the Deſign of this ſtrange Faſhion is to ſmite more effectually their Male Beholders. Now to ſet them right in this Particular, I would fain have them conſider with themſelves whether we are not more likely to be ſtruck by a Figure entirely Female, than with ſuch an one as we may ſee every Day in our Glaſſes: Or, if they pleaſe, let them reflect upon their own Hearts, and think how they would be affected ſhould they meet a Man on Horſeback, in his Breeches and Jack-boots, and at the ſame time dreſſed up in a Commode and a Night-raile.

I muſt obſerve that this Faſhion was firſt of all brought to us from *France*, a Country that has Infected all the Nations of *Europe* with its Levity. I ſpeak not this in derogation of a whole People, having more than once found fault with theſe general Reflections that ſtrike at Kingdoms or Common-wealths in the Groſs: a piece of Cruelty, which an ingenious Writer of our own compares to that of *Caligula*, who wiſhed the *Roman* People had all but one Neck, that he might behead them at a Blow. I ſhall therefore only Remark, that as Livelineſs and Aſſurance are in a peculiar manner the Qualifications of the *French* Nation, the ſame Habits and Cuſtoms will not give the ſame Offence to that People, which they produce among thoſe of our own Country. Modeſty is our diſtinguiſhing Character, as Vivacity is theirs: And when this our National Virtue appears in that Female Beauty, for which our *Britiſh* Ladies are celebrated above all others in the Univerſe, it makes up the moſt amiable Object that the Eye of Man can poſſibly behold.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Not Acted theſe Twelve Years.

By her Majeſty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, on Tueſday next, being the 22d Day of July, will be revived a Comedy call'd Love and a Bottle. Written by the late Mr. George Farquhar. The Part of Squire Mockmode to be perform'd by Mr. Bullock, Roebuck Mr. Mills, Lovewell Mr. Bullock, Jun. Lyrick Mr. Johnſon, Pamphlet Mr. Norris, Club Mr. Penkethman, Bruſh Mr. Pack, Lucinda Mrs. Rogers, Leanthe Miſs Willis. By her Majeſty's Command no Perſons are to be admitted behind the Scenes.

AT the Theatre in Greenwich, this preſent Saturday, being the 19th Inſtant, will be preſented the Loves of Ballo and Media, after the Italian Manner. Perform'd by Mr. Leveridge and Mrs. Lindſey. Intermixt with ſeveral Concertos and Dances between the Acts; particularly, a Dance of four Scaramuches, the Dutch Skipper, the Merry Miller and his Wife, with other Dancing. With new Prologues ſet to Muſick, and ſung by Mr. Leveridge and Mrs. Lindſey. The Boxes will be laid open to the Pit for this Day. The price of each Ticket 3s. Tickets to be had at the Tilt-yard Coffee-houſe, at Nando's within Temple-bar, at John's in Swithin's Alley in Cornhil, and at Greenwich.

This Day is Publiſhed,

Uſeful Miſcellanies: Containing, I. A Preface of the Publiſher of the Tragi Comedy of Joan of Hedington. II. The Tragi-Comedy of Joan of Hedington. In Imitation of Shakeſpear. III. Some Account of Horace his Behaviour during his Stay at Trinity College in Cambridge. With an Ode to entreat his Departure thence; together with a Copy of his Medal, taken out of Trinity College Buttery, by a Well-wither to that Society. Part I. Printed for Bernard Lintott at the Croſs Keys between the Two Temple Gates, price 6d. Where may be had Dr. Bently's Horace, Latin and Engliſh.

This Day is Publiſhed,

A Plan of the Town, Fortifications, and Harbour of Dunkirk, with an Hiſtorical Deſcription thereof, pr. 4d. Sold by J. Baker in Pater-Noſter Row. Where may be had the Hiſtory of Prince Mirabel in 3 parts, The preſent State of the Parties in Great Britain, pr. 4s. All at Stakes, Hanover or Perkyn, pr. 3d. A new Project, &c. pr. 4d. The General Cashiered, A Play, pr. 1s. 6d. They are alſo Sold by A. Berrington near Eſſex-ſtreet End.

A fine young Stone Coach-horſe to be Sold, his Fellow being dead; he has a Blaze, and four white Feet and is about 15 Hands and an half high. Enquire at the Plough Inn near Lincol's-Inn, where if any Perſon will leave word where he may be match'd, he may light of a Chapman.

The Works of Mr. Francis Beaumont and Mr. John Fletcher, in 7 Volls. 8vo. adorn'd with Cuts. Plutarch's Lives in 5 Volls. tranſlated by ſeveral hands. Seneca's Morals tranſlated by Sir Roger L'Eſtrange. The Satyrs of Decimus Junius Juvenalis, &c. tranſlated into Engliſh Verſe by Mr. Dryden and ſeveral other eminent Hands. The Works of Mr. Congreve in 3 Volls. conſiſting of his Plays and Poems. Poems on ſeveral Occaſions written by Mr. Prior. Paradiſe loſt, a Poem, in 12 Books, by Mr. John Milton. The Chriſtian Hero, written by Mr. Steele. N. B. The three laſt are printed with a neat Elzever Letter in ſmall Pocket Volumes: All Printed for Jacob Tonſon at Shakeſpear's head over-againſt Catherine-ſtreet in the Strand.

The Retir'd Gard'ner, or, Dialogues between a Gentleman and a Gard'ner: Containing the Methods of Making, Ordering and Improving a Fruit and Kitchin-Garden, together with the Manner of Planting and Cultivating Flowers, Plants, Shrubs, and Under-Shrubs, neceſſary for the Adorning of Gardens, &c. In which is explain'd, the Art of Making and Diſpoſing of Parterres, Arbours of Greens, Wood-Works, Arches, Columns, and other Pieces and Compartments uſually found in the moſt Beautiful Gardens of Country-Seats. The whole enrich'd with Variety of Figures, being a Tranſlation from the Sieur Louis Liger. To which is added, a Deſcription and Plan of Count Tallard's Garden at Nottingham. The whole Reviſ'd, with ſeveral Alterations and Additions, which render it proper for our Engliſh Culture, by George London, and Henry Wiſe. Printed for Jacob Tonſon at Shakeſpear's Head over-againſt Catherine-ſtreet in the Strand.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertiſements are taken in; as alſo by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings* in the *Strand*.